

RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT



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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1963



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**RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT
RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

1963

by

**J. L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
RUNCORN URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS**

OFFICIALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(1) Medical Officer of Health, Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts.

(2) Divisional Medical Officer of Health

Divisional School Medical Officer (Runcorn Division)

J. L. Patterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors and Meat and Food Inspectors

D. BOOTHMAN, M.A.P.H.I., Senior Public Health Inspector

National Certificate in Building

Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.)

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.I.)

Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)

Offices: Public Health Department, Castle Park, Frodsham.

Tel. No. Frodsham 2186

District Office, Sandy Lane, Stockton Heath

Tel. No. Warrington 61218/9

Residence: Tel. No. Frodsham 2219.

G. F. SIXSMITH, M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector

Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.)

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.I.)

Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)

Housing Management Certificate (The Inst. of Housing)

Diploma in General Hygiene Advanced (R.I.P.H. & H.)

Residence: Tel. No. Warrington 32465.

D. J. BYRON, M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector

Certified Public Health Inspector (P.H.I.E.B.)

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.H.)

National Certificate in Building.

Residence: Tel. No. Frodsham 3215.

Pupil Public Health Inspector

A. C. BARKER

Intermediate examination of Public Health Inspector's Dip.

Clerical Duties

Miss J. M. LEWIS

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RURAL DISTRICT OF RUNCORN, 1963

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor W. H. STUBBS, J.P.

Vice Chairman:

Councillor G. J. FORD

Health Committee:

Councillor A. L. BARTHOLOMEW, Chairman

Councillor R. E. PAYTON, C.C., J.P., Vice Chairman

Councillors

Councillor A. R. Allen

„ J. Billington

„ H. R. Done

„ C. Gleave

„ Mrs. J. A. Glover

Councillor H. Helsby

„ C. Holden

„ R. Hunnam

„ J. Hunt

„ J. W. Kirkham

„ A. Jones

Ex-Officio: Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the District Council.

OFFICERS

Solicitor/Clerk of the Council:

Mr. R. PATRICK WILLIAMS, Frodsham

Engineer and Surveyor:

Mr. B. PRESTON, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I. Mun.E.
Frodsham

Treasurer:

Mr. A. P. WARBURTON, Frodsham.

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Glover and Gentlemen,
Rural District Council of Runcorn,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

There are several matters which call for comment.

The freedom from major infectious diseases namely Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever and Poliomyelitis is not a chance happening. In Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis it is due to the extensive and successful campaigns of immunisation against these diseases. The strict attention to food hygiene by the Public Health Inspectors helps to control typhoid fever and food poisoning. This valuable work in food hygiene in shops is made less effective because flies breed in the refuse which collects at the back of shops, because it is not collected often enough. This should be put right.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 8.80. This is very satisfactory and reflects credit upon all those whose actions affect the health of children, e.g. medical care, health teaching, housing. A further analysis of the figure shows that out of 7 infant deaths, 6 happened in the first month of life. Since the deaths in the first month of life are often due to congenital abnormalities the causes of which are not well understood, effective preventive action is difficult.

In looking at the figures for death rates in the middle and older age groups, better results are needed and can be achieved. To do so it will be necessary to use new methods such as the large scale use of screening techniques in apparently healthy people.

Already such techniques are in use in this district in three important fields:—

- 1 Cervical smears to detect cancer of the neck of the womb.
- 2 Urine testing of very young infants to detect a very rare form of mental backwardness which can be treated successfully.
- 3 Mass radiography for chest diseases.

There are four other techniques available which have the advantages of simplicity and objectivity, viz: urine testing for protein and sugar; weight measurements; testing for increased tension of the eyeball; Haemoglobin estimations.

Urine testing and weight measurements would be useful in discovering and trying to prevent diabetes and some of the diseases of the heart and circulation. Haemoglobin estimations would reveal iron deficiency anaemia which I suspect is quite common in the elderly owing to inadequate diet. Since diseases of the circulation accounted for 214 deaths of whom 30 were under 65 years of age, there is considerable scope for prevention.

Testing for increased tension of the eyeball could lead to the early discovery and treatment of Glaucoma which can go unrecognised until it has caused serious loss of sight.

Diseases of the respiratory system caused 79 deaths including 15 from lung cancer. It is estimated that the nation pays £55 million per year to treat respiratory disease. Cleaning the air we breath would reduce morbidity, mortality and cost dramatically. It is a tragedy that smoke control, perhaps the biggest single contribution which could be made to the public health at present, makes such slow progress.

In environmental health the Senior Public Health Inspector has drawn attention to the Noise Abatement Act. Noise is not an easy problem because although it is injurious to health its effects are psychological rather than physical. This means that the level of annoyance varies from person to person, and that there are no objective measurements of the harmful effects on general health.

This report reveals the work which goes on to maintain the public health and points to the further fields in which action is needed. These new areas of activity are more extensive and more difficult to tackle than those in which success has been already achieved.

My sincere thanks are due to all the Staff of the Public Health Department and to the other Council officials for their help during the year.

Yours obediently,

J. L. PATTERSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) Area (in acres)	45,552
(b) Estimated population	41,150
(c) Number of inhabited houses (end 1963 according to Rate Book)	14,076
(d) Rateable value of the District 13/12/63	£1,376,117
(e) Sum represented by one penny rate (1/4/63) Net	£5,502
(f) Average number of persons per inhabited house (estimated population)	2.92
(g) Density of population. Number of persons per acre (estimated population)	1.11

Vital Statistics

Area Comparability Factors:

Births	1.00
Deaths	1.03

Population (Mid year estimated):

	Total	M	F
Live Births—Legitimate ...	771	399	372
Illegitimate ...	24	12	12
	<hr/> 795	<hr/> 411	<hr/> 384

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	19.32
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	3.02

	Total	M	F
Still Births—Legitimate ...	11	6	5
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ...	13.65
Total live and still births	806
Number of Infant Deaths (deaths under one year of age:—	

	Total	M	F
Legitimate ...	6	5	1
Illegitimate ..	1	1	—
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 1

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	8.80
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 live births	...	7.55
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ..	1.26
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks (7) per 1,000 total live births	... ..	8.80
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths (11) and deaths of infants under 1 week (6) combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	... ..	21.09

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)

Number of Deaths	... ..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	... ..	Nil

Summary of Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

1(a) Pneumonia	... ..	Male 1 month
1(a) Acute Leukaemia	... ..	Male 2 months
1(a) Neonatal Asphyxia	... ..	Male 10 months
1(a) Prematurity	... ..	} Male 1 day
1(b) Maternal Toxaemia	... ..
1(a) Atelectosis	... ..	Male 8 hours
1(a) Prematurity	... ..	Female 1 day
1(a) Prematurity	... ..	Male 20 hours

Deaths—1963

Total Deaths	... ..	486
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	12.30

Common Causes of death:

Coronary Disease, Angina	... ..	96
Hypertension with Heart Disease	... ..	13
Other Heart Diseases	... ..	48

Total ... 157

Vascular Lesions of the nervous system	...	57
Lung Cancer	... ..	15
Other Cancer	... ..	73

Total ... 145

COMPARISON RATES — 1953/1963

Year		Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1953	...	35,800	13.63	10.28	22.54
1954	...	36,260	13.59	12.58	24.34
1955	...	36,810	13.36	11.49	14.22
1956	...	37,080	14.10	11.84	24.85
1957	...	37,470	15.55	11.10	12.00
1958	...	37,850	15.61	11.25	21.99
1959	...	38,140	15.20	11.58	24.09
1960	...	38,960	17.60	11.65	18.95
1961	...	39,920	16.66	12.14	12.20
1962	...	40,670	16.85	12.41	21.27
1963	...	41,150	19.32	12.30	8.80

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1 Public Health Officers

The names and qualifications, districts, addresses and telephone numbers are given at the beginning of the Report.

2 Laboratories

Facilities are given by:

The Public Health Laboratory, City Hospital Chester.

The Public Health Laboratory, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.

The Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester.

The Public Health Laboratories at Warrington and Chester Royal Infirmaries.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of Runcorn

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I again thank the Medical Officer of Health for the opportunity of commenting on the environmental health services of the Public Health Department, Sections C, D and E.

There were no changes in staff during the year, and I should like to express my appreciation of their efficient work during the year.

The table of inspections and visits gives a general pattern of the distribution of the work, also described in the body of the report, but comment follows on particular items.

Water supply presents no real problem since almost all properties throughout the district are on a main supply.

The inspections and documentary work on further batches of Clearance Areas, particularly in Frodsham, were completed. Very few complaints are now received on defects in the existing poorer houses due largely to the impact of the Rent Act, tenants who have not had their rent increased either patch up the defects themselves or put up with existing conditions. It is unfortunate that there is no systematic reconditioning of blocks of the older houses. The improvement grants are used almost exclusively by owner occupiers.

Noise abatement investigations are a problem, one reason being the wide variation of reaction from different individuals who are exposed. When plans are submitted for new factories, this Department is consulted on this question.

Good progress was made in the work of sewer connections in Kingsley in many cases involving general improvements in the house drains and amenities.

Meat marking involved increased attendance and later working at the slaughter house.

My remarks of last year concerning the widespread dumping of litter and rubbish in the countryside still apply, indeed the position is becoming worse.

Rodent and insect control has been effectively carried out by the two excellent operatives, and the amount of contract work has increased.

D. BOOTHMAN,
Senior Public Health Inspector

SECTION C

1 Water

Comment by the Water Engineer and Manager of Warrington Corporation, the Water undertaking for the whole of the district except Halton, which is served by the Runcorn Water Board, is as follows:—

- (i) (a) The water supply in the Runcorn R.D.C. area has been satisfactory in quality.
- (i) (b) There have been low pressures in parts of Antrobus, Sutton Weaver and Norley, and pipe-laying schemes to relieve this situation will be carried out during 1964.
- (ii) During 1963, 174 bacterial and 7 chemical analyses were made of the water going into supply. All samples were satisfactory.
- (iii) No plumbo solvency was encountered.
- (iv) No contamination was detected in supply.

Since 16th October, 1963, parts of the R.D.C. area from Aston to Stockton Heath have been supplied from Foxhill and Newton Hollow, supplemented intermittently as required from the Liverpool Corporation River Dee Aqueduct.

All analyses are carried out by Messrs. Ruddock and Sherratt of Flag Lane, Warrington.

Private water supplies are bacteriologically examined twice per year. Where as a result of such sampling the supplies have been established as unsatisfactory, notices advising that the water be boiled or chlorinated before drinking, dietetic and dairy purposes are sent and repeated quarterly to the owners and occupiers.

Chemical Analyses				Foxhill	Newton Hollow	Runcorn and District Water Board to Halton	East Cheshire Water Board to Budworth Village and Ball Lane, Kingsley	Frodsham	Helsby
									Helsby and Frodsham Warrington Water Dept., Warrington
Date...	...	...	...	17.4.63	17.4.63	8.10.63	8.10.63	17.4.63	17.4.63
Appearance	...	...	...	Clear and Colourless Nil	Clear and Colourless Slight Chlorine	Clear and Colourless Nil	Clear and Colourless Nil	Clear and Colourless Nil	Clear and Colourless Nil
Odour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Re-action	...	...	...	ph 7.2	ph 7.6	ph 7.4	ph 7.6	ph 7.0	ph 7.6
				Parts per million					
Total solids	...	...	...	179	182	24	228	313	304
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0.02	Nil	0.025	Nil
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0.02	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrites	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	3.5	4.4	1	3.2	10.0	2.2
Chlorides as Cl	...	...	...	26	18	8	18	38	42
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in four hours at 27°C.	...	...	...	0.54	0.51	2	0.08	0.36	0.48
Total hardness	...	...	...	118	127	14	143	200	209
Temporary hardness	...	...	...	98	108	10	113	90	190
Permanent hardness	...	...	...	20	19	4	30	110	19
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	...	...	...	98	108	10	113	90	190
Potassium as K	...	...	...	2.0	1.4	0.4	Nil	8.2	2.6
Free chlorine	...	...	...	Nil	0.185	Nil	0.01	Nil	Nil
Poisonous metals	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manganese as Mn...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0.025	Nil	Nil	Nil
Free CO ₂	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	Nil	Nil
Fluorine	...	...	...	0.1	Less than 0.1	Nil	0.10	Nil	Nil
Bacteriological Examinations:—				10.12.63	10.12.63	10.12.63	8.10.63	10.12.63	10.12.63
No. of organisms per ml. capable of growth on nutrient agar at 37°C in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	1	1	0	0	0	5
No. of organisms per ml. capable of growth on nutrient agar at 20/22°C in 3 days	...	...	...	7	7	0	0	2	26
Probable No. of coliform organisms per 100 mls.	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probable No. of faecal coli per 100 mls.	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clostridium Welchii 50 mls.	...	...	...	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg

Parish	(a) Private Water Mains		(b) Private Supplies			
	Direct to Houses		Standpipes		Private Mains	
	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation
Alvanley	112	338	—	—	—	—
Antrobus	236	704	1	4	—	3
Appleton	1603	4821	—	—	—	4
Aston ...	51	100	—	—	23	80
Budworth Great	124	370	—	—	—	—
Daresbury	96	301	—	—	—	—
Dutton ...	98	472	—	—	—	1
Frodsham	2260	6078	—	—	1	3
Grappenhall	2693	8122	—	—	—	—
Halton ...	481	1468	—	—	—	—
Hatton ...	101	306	—	—	—	2
Helsby ...	1270	3712	—	—	—	6
Kingsley	411	1356	3	6	—	—
Manley ...	158	687	—	—	1	2
Moore ...	193	625	—	—	—	—
Norley ...	314	845	—	—	1	—
Norton ...	18	51	—	—	—	—
Preston Brook...	149	420	—	—	25	75
Stockton Heath	2498	6759	—	—	1	4
Stretton	158	582	—	—	—	—
Sutton ...	266	755	—	—	—	—
Walton ...	572	1520	—	—	—	—
Whitley	185	532	3	7	—	—
Totals ...	14002	40924	7	17	49	159
					3	9
					15	41

Drainage and Sewerage

Kingsley—The work of laying sewers was completed and about 75% of the house connections carried out.

Other matters requiring attention in the future are:—

1. Norley—Sewers and sewage disposal works. Scheme prepared.
2. Helsby—New intercepting sewer and sewage disposal work extensions.
3. Great Budworth—Sewers and sewage disposal works.
4. Stretton—Sewage disposal improvements.
5. Acton Grange—Works enlargements.
6. Moore—Sewage disposal improvements, possible pumping to Acton Grange.
7. Grapenhall—Stockport Road sewers.
8. Apleton Wrights Green—Discontinuance of small unsatisfactory sewage disposal works and ejection to the sewer in Lyons Lane (approved for 1963). Scheme prepared.
9. Antrobus—Sewers and sewage disposal works for small area likely to be developed in Post Office area.
10. Walton—Discontinuance of small sewage works and connection to Acton Grange Works.
11. Hatton—Discontinuance of sewage works and ejection to main works.

The Council provided the branch drain within the limits of the highway for each connection in the Kingsley sewerage scheme, the owner providing the remainder of the work. In order to assist, this Department prepared many of the plans of the drainage alterations. Considerable time was spent on this work, in advising the owners and supervising the work.

The Department now undertakes the clearing of combined drainage systems which may be technically sewers, where these are not the main sewers dealt with by the Engineer and Surveyor, and where there is reasonable access to the pipes.

Simple drain stoppages are also cleared on request on a cost basis. This service has proved most useful in dealing expeditiously with these problems.

Rivers and Streams

Pollution of ditches and streams remain a problem owing to the erection of new houses, improved sanitary appliances to existing houses and improved milk and dairy technique in parishes without sewers. Private owners are advised on the best type of septic tanks and filters for their property. Where such properties are in groups the only final satisfactory solution is the provision of a sewer and sewage disposal works. Liquor from cowsheds and

silage pits present a particularly difficult problem where it is not collected and returned to the land as manure. With the continued improvement of farm premises usually involving more intensive animal husbandry, farmers are faced with the fact that the foul drainage must be dealt with in such a manner to avoid nuisance and pollution of ditches and watercourses.

Consideration should be given to receiving farm drainage into sewers as a trade effluent.

The discharge of effluent from a slaughterhouse in Kingsley still pollutes the village stream. Investigations were made on the possibility of receiving this trade effluent into the Council sewers, and its impact on the treatment works. In the particular situation of this slaughterhouse this is the only practical solution.

The two cesspool emptying vehicles are used for desludging septic and settling tanks on Council and private property, and for the collection of nightsoil. The Council give a free service for emptying wholly domestic septic tanks once per year as before, the applicant to have the access covers of the tanks loosened and opened up in readiness. Difficulty is experienced in keeping pace with the demand. The charge for industrial and far liquor tanks remains at 30/- per hour. All owners of properties having septic tanks have been invited to make use of this service.

Where plans are submitted to the Engineer and Surveyor involving drainage systems not connected to a public sewer, the observations of this department have been sought on the efficiency of the proposed drainage disposal.

The pollution of the Manchester Ship Canal continues, and causes objectionable odours after a prolonged period of warm weather.

The River Board are pressing for improvements in the treatment of trades and sewage effluents which will be a long and expensive matter. Some improvement has been made.

Closest Conversions

37 conversions to the water carriage system were carried out; 15 of these were included in Improvement Grants.

Where this has been done voluntarily by the owners and is not part of an Improvement Grant the Council has, when requested, paid a grant up to £15 provided that where a public sewer is not available the owners will at their own expense, connect to a public sewer when it becomes available.

Public Cleansing

This service is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor under direct labour. Disposal is by tipping and levelling with earthing over at intervals at two main tips.

Owing to the increasing difficulty in finding suitable land for tipping consideration must be given to alternative methods of disposal.

A mechanical Shovel and Bulldozer are used to level the tips

Limiting the area of tipped face and sealing with covering material as advised for controlled tipping is not practised, consequently nuisance can arise from insects, rats and dispersal of paper.

The cesspool emptying vehicles are adapted for the collection of the contents of pail closets and enables the collection and disposal of the nightsoil by discharging into the sewers to be carried out with the minimum of nuisance.

To reduce the increasing amount of rubbish dumped throughout the countryside, consideration might be given to collecting rubbish other than that placed in the household bin and of cleaning up waste areas of land which are untidy by reason of dumped rubbish.

Private Tips

Trouble was experienced at one tip by dust from fly ash, and eventually the problem was brought under control.

Another tip fired as might have been expected, owing to the materials tipped, and the depth of the tipping face. This was brought under control at considerable cost, and improvements effected in the manner of subsequent tipping. Even now the control exercised by the owners is poor.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

In general noise from existing establishments is accepted, apart from those in new houses built close to the noise source. Alterations in character and timing of the noises also bring complaints. Several have been found to have high level when measured. Managements have been co-operative.

An outstanding problem is the installation of new drop hammers in an existing works.

Summary of Visits and Inspections

Nature of Inspections						No. of Inspections
Dwelling Houses (Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	336
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	44
Dwelling Houses (Rent Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dwelling Houses (Improvement Grants)	...	...	...	...	...	180
Dwelling Houses (Housing Applications)	...	...	...	...	...	163
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	8
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	206
Water Supplies (Samples)	...	...	...	...	...	20
Other Inspections (Samples)	...	...	...	...	...	9
Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	20
Cesspool and Septic Tanks	...	...	...	...	...	90
Sewer Connections	...	...	...	...	...	87
Sewers and Drains	...	...	...	...	...	710
Colour Tests	...	...	...	...	...	31
Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	104
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	77
Streets, Yards and Passages	...	...	...	...	...	2
Foul accumulations of Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tipping on waste land	...	...	...	...	...	59
Vermin (Rats and Mice)	...	...	...	...	...	54
Vermin (Insects)	...	...	...	...	...	41
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	5
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dairies and Milk retailers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	28
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	14
Shops and Food stores	...	...	...	...	...	54
Food inspections	...	...	...	...	...	31
Slaughterhouses—Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	409
Mortuary	...	...	...	...	...	6
Petrol Stores	...	...	...	...	...	50
Divisional Health Matters	...	...	...	...	...	25
Interviews with Builders, Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	146
Ice-Cream (Samples)	...	...	...	...	...	12
Ice-Cream (Inspection of Premises)	...	...	...	...	...	11
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	74
Noise Abatement Act	...	...	...	...	...	31
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act	...	...	...	...	...	6
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	45
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	450
Total						3,670

SHOPS

Shops Act, 1950

Number employing persons	...	...	...	...	156
Number employing members of own family only	...			...	164

Clean Air Act, 1956

The Council are members of the National Society for Clean Air and resolved to adopt the Model Byelaws that domestic appliances installed in new buildings shall be capable of burning smokeless fuel or otherwise capable of smokeless operation. Smoke Control Areas have not yet been set up.

Noxious odours from industrial works have not been troublesome; the prevailing wind is away from the district. Occasionally when the wind is in the other direction, the typical oil refinery smell from Stanlow is noticed. Contact is maintained with H.M. Alkali Inspectors on these problems.

Rats and Mice Destruction

The Senior Public Health Inspector acts as Rodent Officer; two full time Rodent Operatives are employed.

A limited number of farm contracts have been secured and particular effort is made to obtain those where a farm is in a built up area so that block treatment can be carried out with the adjacent properties where necessary.

Farmers are supplied with Warfarin on charge when requested, and advice is always available. Inspections are carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatment was offered to industrial premises at a charge of cost of labour and materials. Some of these, schools and one cooking depot, receive treatment as required on this basis; 49 other preferred to enter into contracts amounting to £480. Dwelling houses receive free treatment unless the infestation is due to lack of hygiene or the unsatisfactory keeping of animals or poultry, in which case a charge is made. Warfarin with an oatmeal and wheatmeal base was used with satisfactory results.

The Council have 17 tips, sewage outfalls and properties which receive treatment as required.

Fluoracetimide poisoning 4 times per year involving one lifting of the manhole covers each poisoning has been adopted with very good results. The total number of visits made including re-inspections was 3,120.

Swimming Baths

There are no Public Swimming Baths in the district.

Caravan Sites

As in the previous year considerable time was spent in negotiating with site operators and their advisors on the best way of complying with Site Licence Conditions. Further progress has been made, and work substantially completed on 8 of the larger sites, and most of the small ones.

The others are progressing very slowly owing to difficulties in design and positioning of sewage disposal works.

The number of caravan licences is 35 (including 19 single caravans) for a total of 294 residential and 152 recreational caravans.

Number of unauthorised or lapsed sites— 9 comprising 47 residential caravans.

The number of fixed type dwellings licenced under Public Health Act 1936, Section 269 is 4.

The estimated number of persons occupying these caravans in summer is—recreational 450; residential 700.

Insect Pests

No houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

Other infestations dealt with were ants, wasps' nests, cockroaches and house flies. Infestations were again low this year as the weather was not favourable.

Schools

Inspections of unsound food were made when requested.

Routine preventative insecticide spraying was carried out at the canteens and kitchens three times, Easter, Whitsuntide and Mid-summer, for the Education Authority.

Mortuaries

A mortuary at Stockton Heath is maintained. It is in good condition and suitably equipped.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1961

Home Office Form

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	26	2	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	84	19	—	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises). ...	31	7	—	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	2	—	1	—

SECTION D—HOUSING

1. New Houses brought into the Rate Book in 1963 ... 303

Number of new houses erected by the Local
Authority and brought into the Rate Book ... 76

Number of new houses erected by other bodies and
persons brought into the Rate Book ... 379

				New Houses brought into the Rate Book Total per Parish		No. of inhabited houses in Rural District 31st Dec., 1963
				Private	Local Auth.	
Alvanley	...	...	...	3	Nil	115
Antrobus	...	...	...	1	Nil	241
Appleton	...	...	...	17	3	1603
Aston	...	...	...	Nil	3	74
Budworth Great	...	...	...	1	Nil	124
Daresbury	...	...	...	3	Nil	97
Dutton	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	99
Frodsham	...	...	...	179	73	2260
Grappenhall	...	...	...	28	Nil	2693
Halton	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	481
Hatton	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	103
Helsby	...	...	...	38	Nil	1270
Kingsley	...	...	...	8	Nil	416
Manley	...	...	...	2	Nil	159
Moore	...	...	...	9	Nil	193
Norley	...	...	...	2	Nil	315
Norton	...	...	...	1	Nil	43
Preston Brook	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	151
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	7	Nil	2498
Stretton	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	160
Sutton	...	...	...	2	Nil	266
Walton	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	527
Whitley	...	...	...	2	Nil	188
TOTALS				303	79	14076

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1963

	Houses	No. of displaced persons	Families
Part A—Clearance Areas			
(Housing Act, 1957/61)			
Demolished	33	56	22
Part B Houses not included in Clearance Areas:			
Demolition and Closing Orders			
(1) Housing Act, 1957/61			
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17	33	72	25
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 17 and still in force	10	32	10
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 18)	0	0	0
	76	160	57

Repairs	Informal Action	Number of houses
(2) Number of houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action under Public Health or Housing Acts		4
(3) Public Health Act		
Number of houses in which defects remedied		
(a) by owners		2
(b) by local authority in default		0
(4) Housing Act, 1957/61		
Houses made fit after service of formal notices		
Sections 9, 16 and 24		0
(a) by owners		0
(b) by local authority in default		0
Note: A defective house remedied more than once during the period is included once only.		

ANALYSIS OF UNFIT HOUSES From 1st September, 1954 to 31st December, 1965

Parish	Total First and Second 5 Year Scheme No. of Houses	Demolished	Vacant		Clearance or Demolition Order not to re-let but still occupied	Reconditioned or Improvements Commenced
			Closing Order or Agreement not to relet	Clearance or Demolition Order		
Alvanley	4	—	3	—	—	1
Antrobus	15	3	1	3	4	4
Appleton	21	10	5	—	6	—
Aston	14	3	3	3	3	2
Budworth (Gt.)	11	3	1	1	2	1
Daresbury	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton	7	2	4	—	1	—
Frodsham	176	93	8	15	3	—
Grappenhall	48	24	6	—	—	14
Halton	7	1	1	—	—	5
Helsby	48	32	2	2	—	2
Hatton	12	3	1	4	—	3
Kingsley	40	8	6	3	3	1
Manley	1	—	—	—	—	13
Moore	15	3	—	1	—	1
Norley	10	4	—	—	2	—
Norton	—	—	—	—	—	2
Preston Brook	7	2	—	—	—	—
Stockton Heath	35	30	2	—	1	—
Stretton	12	6	4	1	1	—
Sutton	17	11	—	—	3	3
Walton	1	—	—	3	1	1
Whitley	23	11	1	3	—	2
Totals	524	249	48	39	38	56

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations

Number on the Register:

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	46

2. Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

Licences are now issued by Cheshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority. Reports on samples of milk taken by the County Health Inspectors are sent regularly to this department.

3. Food Premises in Area:—

Grocer and General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	105
Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	20
Sweets	...	...	...	...	...	39
Butcher	...	...	...	...	...	22
Chemist	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	...	6
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tripe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cafe and Restaurant	...	...	...	...	...	21
Licensed premises with Catering	...	...	...	...	...	57
Confectioners, Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	14
						—
						300
						—

Registered Premises—

Ice Cream—

Sale only	...	...	...	...	...	114
Manufacture, Hot Mix	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Manufacture, Cold Mix	...	...	...	...	...	1

—
115
—

Preserved Foods—

Sausage and Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	19
Meat Pies	...	...	...	...	...	11
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	...	6

—
36
—

Inspections at Registered Premises were 50.

4. Meat and Other Foods

During the year visits made in respect of Meat and Food Inspection were 31 in shops and 409 in slaughterhouses.

Two slaughterhouses are licensed.

The quantity of food condemned in shops and canteens during the year was:—

Carcase Meat	...	...	...	...	...	40
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	...	226
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	144
Canned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	24
Canned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	14 pints
Cheese Spread	...	...	...	...	...	2

Carcases inspected and carcasses or parts condemned:—

	<i>Cattle exclud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Cattle slaughtered as reactors or under T.B. Order</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed	507	312	—	975	2886	57	—
Number inspected	507	312	—	975	2886	57	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</i> Whole carcasses condemned	1	16	—	24	23	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	177	180	—	14	344	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis	37.46	62.82	—	3.90	12.72	5.26	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuber- culosis	0.02	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses

100% inspection was maintained: the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into operation on 1st October, 1963, whereby all meat must be inspected and all carcasses passed as fit for human consumption be marked. This involved increased time being spent at the slaughterhouses much outside normal office hours.

The Council decided to make the full charge, but offered annual contracts of 90% of the previous years slaughter. Both butchers accepted such contracts.

Meat Condemned

The amount of meat and edible offals condemned was:					
For tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	11 lb.
For other causes	...	...	...	...	15,839 lb.

Condemned Food Disposal

Meat and other foods are stained with green dye and disposed of by collection by approved Contractors and burying deep in the Council's Refuse Tips.

Adulteration, etc. Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his department in the Runcorn Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act, during the year 1963.

Samples obtained during the year ended 31st December, 1963:

Name of Sample	Number obtained	No. adulterated or not up to the required standard of quality
Apples	1	—
Aspirin Tablets	1	—
Blackcurrants—Frozen	1	—
Butter	1	—
Brandy Butter	1	—
Blancmange Powder	1	—
Baking Powder	1	—
Cloves—Ground	1	—
Cochineal Substitute	1	—
Cauliflower	1	—
Champagne Perry	1	—
Cyder	1	—
Cod Steaks	1	—
Cabbage	1	—
Carrots	1	—

Cheshire Cheese	...	...	1	—
Cheese Spread with lobster	...	...	1	—
Double Cream	...	...	1	—
Dessert Powder—Caramel	...	...	1	—
Flour S.R.	...	...	1	—
Gelatine Powdered	...	...	1	—
Ham Pate	...	...	1	—
Ice Cream	...	...	1	—
Ice Cream—continental	...	...	1	—
Jelly—Table	...	...	1	—
Jam—Mixed fruit	...	...	1	—
Lettuce	...	...	1	—
Lard	...	...	1	—
Milk	...	...	84	4
Meat Paste	...	...	1	—
Mushrooms	...	...	1	—
Oranges	...	...	1	—
Plums	...	...	1	—
Pears	...	...	1	—
Parrishes Foods	...	...	1	—
Pepper—Black	...	...	1	—
Pickled Onions	...	...	1	—
Raisin Bran Flakes	...	...	1	—
Sausage—Pork	...	...	4	1
Salmon—Fresh	...	...	1	—
Sprouts	...	...	1	—
Sauce	...	...	2	—
Sweets	...	...	2	—
Salmon spread with butter	...	...	1	—
Tomatoes	...	...	1	—
Vegetable Flakes—dehydrated	...	...	1	—
Vinegar—Malt	...	...	1	—
Whisky	...	...	4	—
Yorkshire Pudding—Frozen	...	...	1	—
			140	5

Particulars of Non-Standard Samples

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1.	Pork Sausage	100 p.p.m. sulphur dioxide preservative (undeclared)	Sellers Cautioned
2.	Milk	3.3 per cent deficient in fat	Seller Cautioned
3.	Milk	3.3 per cent deficient in fat	Farmer cautioned; 4 other samples were genuine.
4.	Milk	6.6 per cent deficient in fat	Seller Cautioned
5.	Milk	6.6 per cent deficient in fat	Sellers Cautioned

Particulars of Food complaints from Private Purchasers — Runcorn R.D.C.

No.	From	Nature	Remarks
1.	Private Purchaser	Glass in milk	Dairy fined £5 & £5/5/- costs.
2.	Dairy	Suspected water in milk from farm	See No. 3 on Samples List.
3.	Private Purchaser	Lime and Lemonade containing a fly	Seller Cautioned

SECTION F

DEATHS, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

STATISTICS

1. Infectious Disease—Case Rates per 1,000 Population 1963

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

Population 41,150

Disease	Corrected Notiflcations	Runcorn Rural District Rates per 1,000 Popuiation
Scarlet Fever	20	0·49
Measles	725	17·71
Whooping Cough	19	0·46
Pneumonia	9	0·19
Poliomyelitis	0	0·00
Dysentry	5	0·12
Erysipelas	1	0·02
Encephalitis	0	0·00
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0·00
Food Poisoning	0	0·00

2. Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases 1963—Notifications.

Disease			Age Groups of Cases Notified								Total
			Un- der 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64		65 and over
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	3	3	12	—	1	—	—	20
Measles	...	...	38	118	195	349	16	5	—	—	725
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	4	7	3	3	—	—	—	19
Pneumonia	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	9
Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Dysentry	...	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	5
Erysipelas	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Encephalitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Food Poisoning	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS

3. Particulars of the 7 new cases of tuberculosis from the disease in the area during 1963:—

AGE PERIODS Years			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Respiratory M. F.		Non- Respiratory M. F.		Respiratory M. F.		Non- Respiratory M. F.	
0- 1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-14	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	...	...	—	(1)1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-34	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-54	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-64	...	...	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...			2	(1)2	2	—	—	—	—	—

Figures in brackets relate to cases transferred from another district.

4. Tuberculosis cases on register. Comparative rates:—

Year	Estimated Population	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Total all Forms	No. per 1,000 of Population
		M.	F.	M.	F.		
1953	35,800	93	67	27	30	217	6.02
1954	36,260	86	68	22	23	199	5.48
1955	36,810	91	63	20	20	194	5.02
1956	37,080	101	69	19	22	211	5.69
1957	37,470	104	79	17	22	222	5.92
1958	37,850	106	80	17	23	226	5.97
1959	38,140	109	77	16	23	225	5.89
1960	38,960	111	86	17	23	226	6.08
1961	39,950	116	51	92	24	249	5.90
1962	40,670	120	56	92	24	292	6.12
1963	41,150	122	59	94	24	299	6.20

5. Details of Cancer Deaths over the past 5 years.

Year	Site	1-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75 and over	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Total all ages	
								M	F
1959	Stomach	—	—	6	3	3	1·96	7	5
	Lungs Bronchus	—	1	4	3	3		9	2
	Other Sites	—	1	22	15	14		26	26
1960	Stomach	—	—	4	2	3	1·43	7	2
	Lungs Bronchus	—	1	11	4	2		16	2
	Other Sites	—	1	20	9	26		22	34
1961	Stomach	—	—	5	4	4	1·61	7	6
	Lungs Bronchus	—	—	6	5	1		9	3
	Other Sites	—	5	11	8	15		16	23
1962	Stomach	—	—	3	5	7	2·16	4	11
	Lungs Bronchus	—	1	7	13	—		18	3
	Other Sites	—	4	15	15	18		21	31
1963	Stomach	—	—	6	2	4	2·20	6	6
	Lungs Bronchus	—	1	7	5	2		12	3
	Other Sites	—	—	26	16	19		22	39

6. Causes of Death at different Periods of Life during the Year 1963:—

Cause of Death	AGE GROUP AND SEX												Totals of All Age Groups
	Under 4 Weeks	Under 1 year	1 to 4 years	5 to 14 years	15 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 and over		
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.		
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	5	2	12	3
Malignant Neoplasm: Lung, Bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm: Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	12
Malignant Neoplasm: Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	8	7	2	22	25
Diabetes	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	1	3	—
Coronary Disease, Angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	16	15	26	31
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	23	54	42
Other Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	5	9
Other Circulatory Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	4	17	19
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	4	11	10
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Bronchitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	14	15
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	9	21	10
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	6	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	2	2	6	18	22
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	6	—
All Other Accidents	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	5	8
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	4	—
Total All Cases	6	—	5	2	2	3	7	16	48	57	103	248	238

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1963

By the
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Presented to the
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee
17th March, 1964

Councillor T. H. LEATHER

County Councillor A. JONES

County Alderman	G. ASTBURY,	Chairman County Health Committee
County Councillor	F. McBIRNIE,	Vice-Chairman, County Health Cmttee
„	„	H. MANN
„	„	A. E. MOORS
„	„	R. F. PAYTON
„	„	M. J. PREECE B.A.

Councillor	A. R. ALLEN	„	H. JACKSON
„	G. COUPE	„	J. W. KIRKHAM
„	H. R. DONE	„	J. W. WOODS
„	C. GLEAVE	„	Mrs. J. A. GLOVER
„	J. HUNT		

Councillor	T. CLARE		T. B. SHALLCROSS
"	H. GOODALL		Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK
"	G. R. GRAY		Dr. R. F. JOHNSON
"	G. E. POVEY		

Dr. E. R. CARTER, Local Medical Committee for the County Palatine
of Chester

Miss T. E. DUDLEY, J. P., Cheshire County Nursing Association

Mr. C. EVANS, Runcorn Divisional Executive for Education

Councillor W. H. STUBBS, Chester & Dist. Hospital Management Cmttee

Mrs. C. EVANS

Mrs. E. A. ROYLE

Mr. J. D. WHITLEY

Mrs. J. C. TURNER

Divisional Medical Officer: J. L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1963**

INTRODUCTION

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Child Welfare Centres in the Division continue to be very well attended. The new building at Grappenhall was opened for clinics in October.

Protection against Diphtheria/Whooping Cough and Tetanus by immunisation continues to be widely accepted, 90% + of all infants being protected. Boosting doses are given at 18 months old, five years and 8 years. At each stage the parents are given a record of the immunisation given and asked to keep it safely so that they have written evidence of the child's immunity to Tetanus.

In Poliomyelitis vaccination the use of injected vaccine has been largely replaced by oral vaccine which prevents vaccinated people remaining carriers of the virus and thus, although protected themselves, a danger to others.

* Not many infants have been vaccinated against smallpox—24%. Since preventing the epidemic spread of smallpox is not dependent upon infant vaccination, the small number of vaccinations is not a worry.

The Domestic Help Service continues to work at full stretch and is continually faced with rising demands upon its services. There were 303 cases of which 52 were maternity cases. The domestic helps paid 22,964 visits and the Domestic Help Supervisor 2,587 visits. The Domestic Help Supervisor has a good deal more work to do than many of her colleagues in other authorities of comparable size.

During the year the number of places in the Day Nursery was increased to 35 and to keep daily attendances at this number, the number of children on the roll was kept at 43. Thirteen children were paying a reduced fee and another sixteen were children whose mothers were in jobs of great importance to the community, namely teachers and nurses. At the end of the year there were 38 children on the waiting list. These figures indicate that the Day Nursery fills a real need in the community. In the present buildings it would not be possible to increase numbers any further without danger to the health of the children.

In Health Education a new work begun during the year was that of the Merseyside Cancer Education Committee which has as its aim to teach the public the facts about cancer and try to reduce the time between patients' first symptoms and consulting their doctors. It is felt that this delay is due to fear and a false impression that cancer is invariably incurable. You will be interested to know that of all the local authorities in Merseyside this Division has requested more talks on this subject than any other local authority within the area.

Among the voluntary services it is a pleasure to record my appreciation of the work of the Old Peoples' Welfare Committees. At the end of the year steps had been taken to begin a "Meals on Wheels" service for the elderly in Stockton Heath and Grapenhall. I can think of no more useful contribution to the well-being of the elderly and would like to give my sincere thanks to the ladies who organise and help with these services.

I am very sorry to have to record the deaths during the year of Councillor T. B. Shallcross and of Miss Ruth Potter, the Health Visitor for Frodsham and Helsby for the past 12 years.

Councillor Shallcross brought to his work compassion and a disinterested concern for the community's well-being—a combination of qualities sufficiently rare to be greatly missed.

Miss Potter was a woman of great charm and intelligence who brought to her work the quality of compassion. She was especially interested in old people and deaf children.

At the end of the year, Dr. C. E. Unsworth told me of his intention to retire because of prolonged ill health. Dr. Unsworth served the community both as a family doctor and as one of the doctors working at the Child Welfare Centres in Frodsham, Helsby and Kingsley. He has always been eager to find ways and means to make co-operation between the Health Department and the family doctors more effective. I should like to record my personal thanks to him for all his help, encouragement and kindness, and to wish him well in his retirement.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Divisional Health Committee for their support and help to me on all occasions.

The co-operation and assistance of the County Medical Officer and his staff, the Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee, the staff in my Divisional Health office and the nursing staff in the Division, has been greatly appreciated.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. L. PATTERSON

Divisional Health Office,
36 Halton Road,
RUNCORN.

SECTION 22

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

There are eight Child Welfare Clinics in the Division, four of which are held in County owned premises (Runcorn, Frodsham, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath) and four of which are held in premises rented by the County Council for the actual sessions (Helsby, Kingsley, Weston Point and Grange Neighbourhood Unit, Runcorn).

The Infant Welfare Clinics are as follows:—

Frodsham	Clinic Centre, The Rock	Alternate Tuesdays at 2-0 p.m.
Grappenhall	Clinic Centre, Springfield Avenue	Tuesdays at 2-0 p.m.
Helsby	British Insulated Cal- lender's Cables W'ks Recreation Room	Alternate Tuesdays at 2-0 p.m.
Kingsley	Hurst Chapel	Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2-0 p.m.
Runcorn	Clinic Centre, Halton Road	Wednesdays, 10 a.m. and 2-0 p.m.
Grange N.U. Runcorn	St. Andrew's Church Hall, Festival Way	Second and Fourth Thursdays of month at 2-0 p.m.
Stockton Heath	Clinic Centre, 65 Whitefield Road	Mondays, 2-0 p.m.
Weston Point	Russell Road Hall	First and Third Thursdays of month at 2-0 p.m.

In addition to Infant Welfare Clinics, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Dental and Minor Ailments Clinics are held at the Frodsham, Grappenhall, Runcorn and Stockton Heath Clinics during the month, and at Runcorn and Frodsham, Ante- and Post-Natal clinics are also held each week. A Toddlers Clinic on the second Friday of the month, and Physiotherapy and Speech Clinics are held at the Runcorn, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath Clinics.

The new Clinic Centre at Grappenhall opened in October and is being very well attended.

The Committee inspected the Welfare Clinics at Frodsham, Grappenhall, Runcorn and Stockton Heath, and the Day Nursery, Runcorn, on the annual inspection of County owned and rented

properties, and attention was given to alterations, repairs and replacements required.

The internal decorations of the Runcorn Clinic Centre were completed early in the year.

Day Nursery

There is one Day Nursery in the Division, situated in Okell Street, Runcorn.

During the year, the average daily attendance of the Nursery was 30, the same as for the previous year.

The new type of gas heaters were installed during the year and these have proved a great success. New windows were supplied throughout the buildings and towards the end of the year the internal decorations were completed.

Attendances at the various clinics held at the Clinic Centres and for the Day Nursery are given in the following tables:

A. Mothers' Clinics				New Cases	Total attendances
Ante-Natal	...	...	...	376	1,912
Post-Natal	...	...	...	30	61
Dental—					
Pre-Natal	...	...	...	4	16
Nursing Mothers	...	...	...	9	16
Dentures Supplied					3

Young Children's Clinics

New Cases Total attendances

(i) Infant Welfare—

To 1 year	...	...	...	1,051	8,312
1 to 2 years	...	...	...	—	1,082
2 to 5 years	...	...	...	—	735

(ii) Specialist—

Ophthalmic (under 5)	...	...	...	40	92
Dental Treatment (under 5)	...	...	...	61	79

B. (i) Welfare Centres—

				New Cases	Total Attendances		
				0-1	0-1	1-2	2-5
Frodsham	...	...	...	112	832	65	132
Grappenhall	...	...	...	203	2,129	231	72
Helsby	...	...	...	63	759	208	187
Kingsley	...	...	...	27	243	34	112
Runcorn	...	...	...	243	2,081	234	142
Runcorn—Grange N.U.	...	...	...	118	587	96	26
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	211	1,252	111	44
Weston Point	...	...	...	74	429	103	20
Totals				1,051	8,312	1,082	735

B. (ii) Ophthalmic Clinics				New Cases	Total attendances
Frodsham	...	...	...	12	32
Runcorn	...	...	...	14	26
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	14	34
Totals ...				40	92

Ante-Natal Clinics :

Post-Natal Clinics :

<i>Clinic</i>				<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>
Frodsham	...	...	...	182	1,221	30	53
Runcorn	...	...	...	194	691	—	8
Totals ...				376	1,912	30	61

(iii) Day Nursery, Runcorn

				Average No. Attending	Total attendances
Aged 0—2 years	...	...	...	8	1,859
2—5 years	...	...	...	22	5,267

Sale of Branded Welfare Foods

The sale of proprietary brands of Welfare Foods at Kingsley, Runcorn, Grange N.U. and Weston Point is carried out through my office. During the year the total sales amounted to £1,528 6s. 10d., an increase of £278 over the previous year.

At Frodsham, Helsby, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath clinics the sale of Welfare Foods is carried out by Voluntary Societies.

Distribution of Welfare Foods—M.O.F.

During the year no new distribution points were opened in the Division.

The following are details of the distribution points and commodities sold during the year:

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Commodities</i>				
	<i>N.D. Milk</i>	<i>Half Cream</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil</i>	<i>A. and D. Capsules</i>	<i>Orange Juice</i>
Runcorn	5,472	174	386	607	3,352
Appleton	825	—	11	18	258
Frodsham	1,675	83	136	168	1,745
Grappenhall	1,735	—	174	190	1,551
Helsby	291	20	57	150	1,070
Kingsley	250	18	34	33	233
Manley	324	—	7	9	191
Moore	310	—	11	4	73
Norley	773	20	28	14	150
Preston Brook	366	—	16	—	64
Stockton Heath	1,422	—	169	422	1,671
Sutton Weaver	123	—	6	4	45
Thelwall	456	—	4	14	203
Weston	404	—	—	1	68
Weston Point	1,040	3	12	14	236
Grange N.U., Runcorn	390	37	38	62	307
Total Issues	15,856	355	1,089	1,710	11,217
Issues to Institutions	10	—	72	—	36
Totals for Division	15,866	355	1,161	1,710	11,253

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY

Under this Section the Committee are responsible for—

- (i) Provision, where necessary, of accommodation for midwives and the maintenance, repair and alterations required for such premises;
- (ii) Provision of transport for midwives where necessary in cases of emergency.

Apart from the midwives residing in 30 Georges Crescent, Grappenhall and 10 Stanley Villas, Runcorn, all other County Midwives in the Division reside in their own homes.

During the year the Committee inspected the County rented midwives' properties and repairs requiring attention were dealt with.

Transport and medical requisites were provided as and when required.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The Committee are also responsible for the housing accommodation of Health Visitors but in this Division all Health Visitors reside in their own homes.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

With the exception of the three district nurses in Runcorn and one district nurse/midwife at Budworth and Helsby, who reside in their own homes, the remainder now reside in County owned or rented property.

The Committee inspected all County owned and rented properties in the Division, and action was taken regarding any alterations, repairs or renewals requiring attention.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Every effort was again made during the year to bring to the notice of parents the need to have their children vaccinated and immunised.

During the year, oral poliomyelitis vaccine was offered to all school children who had started school during the year.

Early in the year Diphtheria/Tetanus immunisation was offered to all children who had commenced school since September 1961, and a total of 1,258 children were immunised.

Arrangements have been made for all schools in the Division to be visited annually so that all children who have started school during the year can be given immunisation.

Regular monthly sessions were held at the Frodsham, Grapenhall, Runcorn and Stockton Heath Clinics for the necessary injections to be given.

The figures set out in the following tables, compiled from record cards received, show the number of vaccinations and immunisations carried out during the year. For comparison purposes the figures for the previous year are also given.

Vaccination

		<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Doctors' Surgery</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	1963	42	—	262	304
	1962	1,165	—	2,615	3,780
Re-Vaccination ...	1963	—	—	81	81
	1962	1,827	—	3,019	4,846

Immunisation—Primary

		<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Doctors' Surgery</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria	1963	—	—	—	—
	1962	—	—	8	8
Combined Whoop- ing Cough /Diph- theria and Tetanus	1963	362	105	588	1,055
	1962	240	—	621	863

Immunisation—Reinforcing Injections

		<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Doctors' Surgery</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria	1963	—	—	30	30
	1962	—	—	60	60
Combined Whoop- ing Cough /Diph- theria and Tetanus	1963	65	1,385	51	1,501
	1962	72	—	229	301

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Towards the end of the year all schools in the Division were visited and all the children whose parents consented were given oral poliomyelitis vaccine. A total of 706 children were vaccinated.

The total number of children in the Division who have been vaccinated against Poliomyelitis either by oral or injected vaccine remains at about 95%.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE TUBERCULOSIS

The Health Visitors were informed of all new cases and asked to visit and complete the environmental report sheet, and where the patients had not attended the Chest Clinic for examination, they were advised to do so. Every effort was made to persuade the contacts to attend for examination.

On receipt of the completed report sheets, these were checked to ascertain what help was required.

Details of cases during the period 1st January to 31st December 1963 are as follows:

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
(a) Total number of cases on register:—					
1st January, 1963 ...	160	122	16	27	325
31st December, 1963 ...	151	118	15	24	308
(b) Removals from register, 1st January to 31st December 1963:—					
Died	1	1	—	—	2
Left district	1	1	—	—	2
Recovered:	12	7	2	3	24
Lost sight of:	1	—	—	—	1
	15	9	2	3	29
(c) Number of notifications received, 1st January to 31st December, 1963:—					
New cases:	5	4	1	—	10
Transfers	1	1	—	—	2
Restored to register ...	—	—	—	—	—
	6	5	1	—	12

B.C.G. Vaccination

During the year parents of children in the 13 years age group attending schools in the Division were given the opportunity of having them given B.C.G. vaccination, and I am pleased to report that there was a very good response, approximately 83% agreeing to the vaccination of their children.

The following schools were visited during the period under review:

Balfour Road County Secondary Schools, Runcorn
Runcorn The Grange County Secondary School
St. Edwards R.C. School, Runcorn
Helsby County Grammar Schools (Boys and Girls)
Helsby County Secondary School
Frodsham County Secondary School
Kingsley County Secondary School
Stockton Heath County Secondary School
Stockton Lodge Private School, Stockton Heath

Grappenhall Hall Special School, Grappenhall
Belmont Hall College, Great Budworth
Netherton House School, Frodsham

Details of the number of forms issued, tests carried out and B.C.G. given during the year are as follows:

Before Vaccination

No. of consent forms issued	...	...	...	854
No. of children for whom consent received	...	...	...	711
No. Mantoux tested	..	...	...	668
No. positive to Mantoux test	...	...	...	130
No. vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	...	538
No. re-vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	...	27

After B.C.G. Vaccination

No. positive to follow-up Mantoux (12 months)	466
No. negative to follow-up Mantoux (12 months)	27

Following the Adrian report on x-ray hazards, the practice of sending children under 15 to Mass Miniature Radiography Unit was discontinued. Now, instead of x-raying all mantoux positive children, only those children with a strong positive mantoux are x-rayed. These are done at the Chest Clinic by arrangements with Dr. Hughes. The parents of these children are also notified to attend for x-ray in an endeavour to find possible contacts.

Care of the Aged

Under the County Council Chiropody Scheme for persons over 65 and handicapped persons, a total of 2,071 treatments were given, 671 at the Chiropodists' Surgery and 1,400 at patients' homes.

The "Meals on Wheels" service proved very useful to the elderly who are housebound.

Loan of Nursing Equipment

Supplies of Nursing equipment, apparatus, etc., are available for loan to patients from stocks supplied to district nurses in accordance with the scale agreed to by the Cheshire County Council and my Committee. A reserve stock is also kept at my Divisional Office.

The demand for the loan of this equipment again greatly increased during the year.

Aids for the Disabled

In addition to small items of equipment loaned to patients under the medical loan scheme, a number of special items and alterations to premises have been approved by the Committee, and the following is a brief description of these items:—

Handrails and ramps supplied to four houses, to enable patients to use wheelchairs.

Three special wheelchairs purchased and supplied to patients.

One Sleyride electric wheelchair supplied.

Power point installed in house to allow patient to use electric kettle and electric heater pencil from her bed.

Immersion heater supplied to patient who had been supplied by the Local Authority with special electric fires in her bungalow on account of her disability.

Handicapped Persons

Visits have been made during the year to persons on the Handicapped Persons Register, and help arranged where necessary.

Health Education

Health Education is a very important part of the Health Department's work albeit a difficult one, and one whose degree of success is impossible to assess. Posters are displayed throughout the Division and pamphlets are distributed at the Welfare Centres.

An encouraging aspect of this work is the good attendance at the ante-natal classes at Stockton Heath and Runcorn. These young mothers are given talks on various aspects of health, and their interest and enthusiasm is very refreshing. This is undoubtedly a successful way of getting Health Education across to people.

The individual contact of Health Visitors in the course of their daily rounds remains the largest single factor in this work.

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The number of domestic helps employed at 31st December, 1963, was 74.

The number of cases provided with domestic help during the year increased from 280 to 303, an increase of 23. The total number of hours domestic helps were supplied to cases was 43,635 compared with 40,423 in 1962, an increase of 3,212 hours.

The following table shows the types of cases supplied with help during 1962 and 1963:—

Year	Confinement Cases	Tuberculosis Cases	Aged Persons	Cases of other Illness
1963	52	1	217	23
1962	60	1	198	21

At 31st December 1963 there were 138 protracted cases remaining on the register, an increase of 7 on the 1962 total.

2,587 domiciliary visits were made during 1963 by the Domestic Help Supervisor, and 22,964 visits by domestic helps.

During the year the Committee considered all cases supplied with the services of a domestic help.

In addition to the cases tabled above a further 162 applications were received where help was not provided, either because private arrangements were made, or because the applicant refused to pay the assessed charge for the service.

Although the table shows a slight drop in the number of Maternity cases attended, a further 7 cases were booked where the applicants were eventually admitted to hospital as emergency cases.

The demands on the service continue to increase, and the recruitment of suitable help remains extremely difficult, with the result that re-visiting of existing cases, for the purposes of re-assessment and supervision, becomes more problematic. There can be no doubt that there is real need for expansion of the service in the near future.

Tribute must be paid to the domestic helps for the magnificent way in which they carried out their duties throughout the appalling weather experienced in the early months of 1963. Many, especially in the rural areas, made incredible efforts—walking long distances through deep snow—determined to get to their cases at all cost.

